Intl. Appl. No. Intl. Filed

PCT/EP98/0

May 4, 1998

The amendments made herein conform the application to practice in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Claims 1-33 have been amended. Claims 33-47 have been added. The amended and added claims are substantially based on the claims as originally filed. Thus, none of the claims added by this Preliminary Amendment introduce new matter into the application. The specification has been amended to include the International priority application. A Sequence Listing in both paper and computer-readable formats is provided herewith.

VERIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.821(f) & (g)

The polypeptide sequence appearing in the attached Sequence Listing was included in the application as filed. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.821(g), no new matter is being added herewith. As required under 37 C.F.R. §1.821(f), I hereby verify that the data on the enclosed disk and the paper copies of the Sequence Listing are identical.

CONCLUSION

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and examination on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 1 Nov. 1999

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